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To: Central
Files

✓ February 10, 1975

Re: N.E. 45th Street Viaduct
East Approach Replacement

Washington Archaeological Research Center
Washington State University
Pullman, Washington 99163

Attention: Mr. Rice

Gentlemen:

The Seattle Engineering Department is planning to replace the existing fire damaged timber approach to the east end of the N.E. 45th Street Viaduct with a concrete structure similar to the viaduct. The project will also include geometric improvements, pedestrian and bicycle paths, bus facilities and landscaping. There will be no additional right-of-way involved.

The project site is at the mouth of a narrow valley which widens to form Union Bay on Lake Washington. Until this century the project site was a low marshland or lake bottom depending upon the season. The construction of the Ballard Locks and the Lake Washington Ship Canal lowered the water level in Lake Washington by about 9 feet. Since that time, much of the area has been drained and filled.

Field investigations indicate that approximately 20 feet of soft compressible peat underlie the project site. Beneath the existing structure where no fill has been placed, the peat deposit extends from the surface to a depth of about 20 feet. The lower part of the peat deposit contains layers of loose sand. As the depth increases beyond about 20 feet, sand becomes the primary soil, and peat layers become thinner and less numerous. On either side of the existing structure, various amounts of fill materials have been placed. In these areas the thickness of peat varies.

Please advise us of any known archaeological resources in the area of this project and what measures should be taken for

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Wash. Archaeological Research Center

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their preservation.

Enclosed is a vicinity map and copies of the soil profiles in
the project area.

Very truly yours,

PAUL A. WIATRAK, P.E.
City Engineer

By *S. G. Ferkovich*
STEVE G. FERKOVICH
Project Engineer

SJF:jlv
Enclosure

Consent Prior to Signature	
STE	<i>[Signature]</i>
FWW	<i>[Signature]</i>
JEH	<i>[Signature]</i>